

Dear Members of the Connecticut General Assembly Human Services Committee:

My name is Javier, and I live in New Haven, Connecticut. I fully support H.B. 6616 to expand HUSKY to all individuals because we do not have the capacity economically to take on all the charges of the hospital. In cases where we need expensive care, it is extremely difficult for us to pay for it.

Personally, I had never been in a hospital until recently when I got very sick. During my hospital visits here in New Haven, my bills had been very high, so with an illness, it's extremely difficult to get care. In fact, family members and people that I know have ended up in very severe health situations. They have gotten very ill because they waited too long to go to the hospital out of fear of getting a very expensive medical bill.

This law would be very impactful to myself, my family, and my community. It would help us tremendously because we would all have the right to healthcare. We would have the ability to go to the hospital and receive treatment because we would be eligible for care. Sometimes, people experience illness or an accident by chance, and when these things happen, you need somewhere to go for medical help. A visit to the emergency room is over \$1000. I don't believe that care must be free, but rather, I hope that we can have access to care where it is within our capability to pay. We all have a right to healthcare.

I support H.B. 6616 and ask the committee to support and pass this legislation.

Thank you for your time,

Javier